

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /068 W

----- 025185

O 070831Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7422

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2847

BANGKOK PLEASE PASS CORCORAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP APER PFOR PROP LA US

SUBJECT: LPDR NOTE ANNOUNCES SEMINAR FOR EMBASSY LOCAL AND TCN
EMPLOYEES

REFS A) VIENTIANE 2164, B) VIENTIANE 2015

SUMMARY: EMBASSY DECEMBER 7 RECEIVED CIRCULAR NOTE FROM FOREIGN
MINISTRY ANNOUNCING PLANS TO ORGANIZE SEMINARS IN VIENTIANE
FOR LAO, VIETNAMESE, CHINESE AND THAI EMPLOYEES OF DIPLOMATIC
MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS EVERY FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
AND SUNDAY. NOTE STATED THAT EMPLOYEES OF EACH MISSION WILL
BE DIVIDED INTO FOUR GROUPS, ASKED EMBASSY TO DESIGNATE 40
EMPLOYEES IN FIRST GROUP, AND STATED EMBASSY WOULD BE INFORMED
SUBSEQUENTLY OF EXACT DATE AND PLACE OF SEMINAR TO BE HELD
FOR FIRST GROUP. IT IS NOT CLEAR FROM NOTE WHETHER EACH GROUP
OF EMPLOYEES WILL HAVE TO ATTEND SEMINAR ONLY ONE WEEKEND OR
MORE, BUT FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL FAMILIAR WITH
SUBJECT SAID EACH GROUP WOULD HAVE TO GO FOUR WEEKENDS.
WE INTEND TO INFORM OUR EMPLOYEES SHORTLY OF SEMINAR
PLANS AND SUBSEQUENTLY SEND NOTE REPLYING TO FOREIGN
MINISTRY. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY DECEMBER 7 RECEIVED NOTE 1096/AE/AC.2 IN
FRENCH DATED DECEMBER 4 FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY, TRANSLATION
OF WHICH FOLLOWS:

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2. BEGIN TEXT: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF LPDR PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO EMBASSY OF US IN VIENTIANE AND HAS HONOR TO INFORM IT THAT IT PROPOSES TO ORGANIZE A SEMINAR EVERY FRIDAY, SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY FROM 0730 TO 1130 AND FROM 1400 TO 1700 FOR EMPLOYEES OF LAO, VIETNAMESE, CHINESE, AND THAI NATIONALITY, RECRUITED LOCALLY ("A TITRE LOCAL") BY DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. IN ORDER NOT TO EXCESSIVELY DISTURB SERVICES OF THE MISSION, IT IS DECIDED THAT THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSES WILL BE MADE IN FOUR GROUPS ("PROMOTIONS") AT VIENTIANE. FOR THE FIRST GROUP FOR WHICH THE EXACT PLACE AND DATE (OF THE SEMINAR) WILL BE MADE KNOWN SUBSEQUENTLY, THE EMBASSY OF USA IS REQUESTED TO PLEASE DESIGNATE FORTY MEMBERS OF ITS LOCAL STAFF IN THE CATEGORY REFERRED TO ABOVE ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING DETAILS: LAO 36 PERSONS, VIETNAMESE 1 PERSON, CHINESE 0 PERSONS, THAI 3 PERSONS. (THIS SHOULD BE DONE) BY FILLING OUT THE ATTACHED FORM AND RETURNING IT TO THE MINISTRY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE MINISTRY THANKS THE EMBASSY FOR ITS FULL COOPERATION. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO IT THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGH CONSIDERATION. END TEXT.

3. IT IS NOT CLEAR FROM NOTE WHETHER EMPLOYEES WILL HAVE TO GO TO SEMINAR ONLY ONE WEEK END OR MORE. I CALLED CONSULAR AFFAIRS DEPUTY DIRECTOR KHAMPHOU SOUKRISAK WHO SAID THAT EACH GROUP OF EMPLOYEES WOULD HAVE TO ATTEND SEMINAR FOUR WEEKENDS. KHAMPHOU SAID FIRST SEMINAR WOULD BEGIN "SHORTLY" BUT DID NOT KNOW DATE.

4. FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOLD ME EARLIER THAT HE WOULD HAVE STAFF MEMBER IN NEXT FEW DAYS SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY REGARDING NOTE BUT ESSENTIALLY HE SAW NO PROBLEM IN COMPLYING.

5. WE ARE NOW WORKING ON SCHEDULE OF FIRST GROUP OF EMPLOYEES TO ATTEND FIRST SEMINAR SO THAT WE WILL NOT HAVE ALL OUR KEY LOCAL EMPLOYEES ABSENT AT ANY ONE TIME. SINCE WE RECEIVED FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE THREE DAYS AFTER IT WAS DATED, WE CONSIDER THAT WE CAN HOLD OFF REPLY FOR AT LEAST SAME AMOUNT OF TIME AND ARE THEREFORE
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CURRENTLY PLANNING TO SEND NOTE REPLYING TO FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH NAMES OF SELECTED EMPLOYEES ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10. FIRST, HOWEVER, WE PLAN TO NOTIFY OUR EMPLOYEES OF INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY.

6. AS REPORTED REF A, ON SEPTEMBER 8 WE SENT FOREIGN MINISTRY LIST OF OUR LOCAL AND TCN EMPLOYEES, WHICH

INCLUDED 162 NAMES, OF WHICH TEN WERE THAI, TWO VIETNAMESE, AND TWO INDIANS. THUS IT APPEARS THAT MINISTRY PLANS TO APPORTION THESE 162 INTO FOUR ROUGHLY EQUAL GROUPS.

7. AS REPORTED REF B, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL PREVIOUSLY TOLD US THAT EMBASSY EMPLOYEES WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS, EACH OF WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND SEMINARS LASTING 15 DAYS. SYSTEM SET FORTH IN NOTE WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED APPEARS AT LEAST TO BE A GREAT IMPROVEMENT, FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, OVER EARLIER CONCEPT.
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